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Date: June 9, 2009
To: Examiner: **Marc R. Filipezyk**
United States Patent & Trademark Office
Fax: (571) 273-8300
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From: Carl T. Reed
Re: Proposed Amendment for Examiner Interview
Serial No: 10/723,018
Our File: 17327.104.1

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Comments:

Please find attached our proposed claim amendments and arguments for the above-identified application. This proposal is for discussion purposes only. Do not enter in record.

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1-15. Cancelled.

16. (New) In a computer system including a computer having a processor and memory, a method of creating a clinical reference material on a desired topic, the method comprising:

receiving a hierarchy of medical data, the hierarchy of medical data comprising:

a plurality of diagnosis;

a plurality of anatomical regions;

a plurality of pathologies; and

relational data describing relationships between the diagnosis, anatomical regions, and pathologies;

storing the hierarchy of medical data in a relational database in the memory of the computer, wherein the hierarchy of medical data is organized according to the relational data;

receiving diagnosis information for each of the plurality of diagnosis, wherein the diagnosis information describes general characteristics of each of the plurality of diagnosis;

storing the diagnosis information of each of the plurality of diagnosis in the relational database with the corresponding diagnosis in the plurality of diagnosis;

receiving a plurality of images and text relating to a particular case, the images and text being associated with a particular diagnosis stored in the relational database;

storing the plurality of images and text relating to the particular case in the relational database such that the images and text are associated with the particular diagnosis;

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receiving a first request from a user for medical reference data on a desired topic;

retrieving the requested medical reference data from the relational database, wherein the medical reference data include at least some of the plurality of images and text, diagnosis information, and medical data related to the first request from the relational database stored in the memory of the computer;

presenting the requested medical reference data in a navigable user interface, wherein the navigable user interface is presented on a display of a user computer according to the hierarchy of medical data;

receiving a second request for clinical reference material, wherein the clinical reference material includes a selected subset of the medical reference data in a requested format via the navigable user interface;

reformatting the selected subset of the medical reference data into the requested format to form the requested clinical reference material; and

sending the requested clinical reference material to the user.

17. **(New)** The method of claim 16, further including the step of reviewing the hierarchy of medical data prior to storing it in the relational database.

18. **(New)** The method of claim 16, wherein the requested clinical reference material is a printed book.

19. **(New)** The method of claim 16, wherein the requested clinical reference material is an electronic book.

20. **(New)** The method of claim 16, wherein the medical data is created using one or more graphical user interfaces.

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21. **(New)** The method of claim 16, wherein the diagnosis information is created using one or more graphical user interfaces.
22. **(New)** The method of claim 16, wherein plurality of images and text relating to a particular case is created using one or more graphical user interfaces.
23. **(New)** An electronic clinical reference and education system, comprising:
an electronic authoring tool comprising a user interface through which the reference data is authored and associated with relational data indicating how the reference data is related in order to form a hierarchy of reference data;
a content database capable of receiving the hierarchy of reference data and storing the hierarchy of reference data in a relational database in a memory; and
a diagnostic reference system including a processor connected to the content database, where user is able to browse the hierarchy of reference data stored in the relational database.
24. **(New)** The system of claim 23 further comprising an expert imaging center protocol advisor for providing imaging protocols to imaging technician.
25. **(New)** The system of claim 23, further comprising a continuing medical education system connected to the diagnostic reference system in that is capable of tracking the amount of time a particular spends browsing the hierarchy of reference data in the diagnostic reference system.

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26. **(New)** The system of claim 25, wherein the continuing medical education system also includes a testing module which is capable of testing the user's knowledge of the hierarchy of reference data that the user has browsed, storing the results of the testing, and granting the user continuing medical education credits when the user has achieved a predetermined score on the testing..

27. **(New)** The system of claim 23, wherein the electronic authoring tool further comprises:

a) a master outline authoring tool, comprising a graphic interface whereby an author is capable of generating a hierarchy of medical data, the hierarchy of medical data comprising:

a plurality of diagnosis;

a plurality of anatomical regions;

a plurality of pathologies; and

relational data describing relationships between the diagnosis, anatomical regions, and pathologies;

b) a diagnostic authoring tool, whereby the author is capable of generating diagnosis information for each of the plurality of diagnosis created by the master outline authoring tool, wherein the diagnosis information describes general characteristics of each of the plurality of diagnosis; and

c) a case authoring tool, whereby the author is able to enter and edit a plurality of images and text relating to a particular case, the images and text being associated with a particular diagnosis created by the master outline authoring tool.

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28. **(New)** The system of claim 23, wherein the content database comprises a server connected to a the Internet and the electronic authoring tool and diagnostic reference system are capable of connecting to the content database via the Internet.

29. **(New)** An electronic clinical reference and education system including a computer having a processor and memory, the system comprising:

- a content management module capable of receiving a plurality of reference content from a plurality of authors, wherein each reference content includes relational data describing the manner in which the reference content should be organized in a reference hierarchy of reference content;

- a relational database capable of storing the plurality of reference content received by the content management module in the memory of the computer wherein the reference hierarchy of reference content is organized according to the relational data;

- a product deployment process capable of receiving a request from a user for reference data on a desired topic, retrieving the requested reference data from the relational database, and presenting the requested reference data to the user in a navigable user interface; and

- a system management process capable of tracking a user's use of the product deployment process and analyzing the user's use of the product deployment process.

30. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 29, wherein the content management module is further capable of performing an analysis of the plurality of reference content received to from the plurality of authors in order to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the reference content.

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31. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 30, wherein the review of the reference content further comprises sending the plurality of reference content received from the plurality of authors to one or more editors for analysis.
32. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 29, wherein the reference content is related to a professional area of practice selected from the group including medicine, engineering, and automobile maintenance and repair.
33. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 29, wherein the product deployment process comprises a diagnostic reference system, whereby a user may request and receive reference data from the relational database on a desired topic in order to assist in a diagnosis.
34. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 29, wherein the product deployment process comprises an expert imaging center system, whereby a user may request and receive reference data from the relational database on a desired topic in order to identify an appropriate imaging protocols which may be used in a particular imaging process.
35. **(New)** The electronic clinical reference and education system of claim 29, wherein the product deployment process comprises an continuing education system, whereby the user requests and is presented with educational reference data.

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In overview, *Stefanescu* discloses an organization and searching system for image data sources. *Stefanescu*, Abstract. Using a series of user interfaces, a user is able amend any image data with a variety of information, which may be used as a platform for multi-modal matching or a multi-modal search engine, which, in one embodiment may assist in diagnosis of the image data. *Stefanescu*, [0050]-[0052] and [0058]. *Stefanescu* also teaches a reference interface which may be used by the user as a reference tool, and which image data may be used by the matching or search engine for diagnosis. *Stefanescu*, [0056]. Thus, in *Stefanescu*, the user has the ability to tag or identify his or her image data in order to assist in the matching or diagnosis process, but does not have the ability to “create a hierarchy of medical data” which is incorporated as a portion of the reference data itself in a relational database which may be used in a subsequent “request for clinical reference material,” as described in the newly presented claims.